

SEP 25 1946

CHRONOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND DOCUMENTS

Supplement to

THE WORLD TODAY

PERIODICAL ROOM
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UNIV. OF MICH

Published twice a month by the Royal Institute of International
Affairs, Chatham House, St. James's Square, London, S.W.1

Annual subscription 12s. 6d. Per copy 6d.

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ARGENTINA. *Aug. 13.*—The Government announced its recognition of the new Bolivian Government.

Aug. 19.—The Senate unanimously ratified Argentina's commitment under the Act of Chapultepec (signed at Mexico City in March, 1945) and the U.N. Charter. Nationalists shouted from the public galleries "Traitors" and "You have sold your country". Crowds set the Argentine flag at halfmast and stoned the Congress building. The offices of pro-U.S. newspaper *La Razon* were also stoned, and Nationalists marched through the streets shouting "Perón has betrayed us. Death to Braden".

Aug. 20.—Further rioting occurred, demonstrators scattering leaflets attacking the Government. The police threw tear-gas bombs and charged the crowd. Over 100 arrests were made.

Aug. 21.—A Nationalist tried to blow up the Houses of Congress as a protest against the Senate's ratification of Chapultepec.

BOLIVIA. *Aug. 13.*—Argentinian and U.S. recognition of the Government. (*see U.S.A. and Argentina.*)

BRAZIL. *Aug. 18.*—The Communist newspaper *Tribuna Popular* was suspended for 15 days for attacks on the Government.

CHINA. *Aug. 13.*—Gen. Chiang Kai-shek announced a 6-point policy covering the institution of a constitutional Government, the enlargement of the Government to include members of all political parties, and the meeting of the National Assembly on Nov. 12. Appealing to the Communist Party to change its policy, he said that if they had carried out the agreement reached in January and had, according to

schedule, appointed representatives to participate in the National Government and to attend the National Assembly, "we could now have instituted constitutional government".

Aug. 14.—A Communist spokesman in Nanking, commenting on Chiang Kai-shek's speech, said, "The Government wants war. We find the Government neither wants peace, nor has any faithful desire for it". Fighting was reported over a large area round the junction of the Lunghai and Tsinpu railways, in East Honan and N. Kiangsu.

Aug. 16.—The Government admitted that the Communists had taken Lanfeng, east of Kaifeng, and captured 2,500 Government troops.

Aug. 19.—The Central Bank made an adjustment in the foreign exchange rate in order to try to restore a better balance between imports and exports and to stimulate domestic production.

The official daily organ of the Communist Party called for all-out war against the Government. Communist officials in Nanking explained that an offensive was necessary to gain lost territory and thus restore the political bargaining power of the Communists, adding that a Coalition Government was still their aim.

The Communists broadcast from Yen-an and Kalgan an order for full mobilization against the Government.

Aug. 20.—The Communist spokesman in Nanking stated that the order for mobilization was "merely a moral mobilization . . . We have no desire to overthrow the Government".

Aug. 21.—The Communists declared that Chiang Kai-shek was using more than 2 million Government troops, which was more than 80 per cent of the whole Government Army, in attacks against their army.

It was reported from Peking that the Government Commissioner had sent an ultimatum to the Communist Gen. Yeh Chen-ying stating that unless the Communists lifted the siege of Tatung, in North Shansi, the Government would launch an all-out offensive against the Communist strongholds of Yen-an and Kalgan.

An invitation was sent by Chiang Kai-shek to the Communists to submit names for a coalition Government.

Gen. Marshall and the U.S. Ambassador arrived in Nanking.

A Communist broadcast from Yen-an announced that the Communists were establishing an independent Manchurian State, with Harbin as the capital. The move was described as a "provisional supreme administration for democratic Manchuria".

Aug. 23.—The Government were understood to have approved a "last chance" plan to secure a truce, under which all disputed areas would be put under American trusteeship, to be administered by them without restriction until elections had determined whether the Government or the Communists should take them over.

CYPRUS. *Aug. 13.*—The Government announced that a law would shortly be enacted as a temporary measure empowering the Governor to detain in Cyprus Jews attempting to enter Palestine illegally, who would be kept under military supervision until arrangements could be

made for their departure. None of them would be allowed to become residents of Cyprus.

Aug. 14.—Two British ships arrived from Haifa with 1,286 immigrant Jews. They were placed in camps run on military transit camp lines.

Aug. 18.—Jewish immigrants tried to rush the gates of the camp when they had heard that correspondents on the first official visit to the camp were banned from interviewing the inmates and could only submit written questions. Later, correspondents were allowed to speak to the Jews.

A British ship arrived with a further 800 immigrants from Palestine.

Aug. 19.—A British ship arrived with 784 more immigrants from Palestine.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Aug. 12.—Prague radio announced that the frontier with Poland had been closed in view of Britain's decision to stop illegal immigration into Palestine.

Aug. 18.—It was learnt that the frontier with Poland had not been closed, but that crossings had been greatly restricted. Thousands of persons were reported to be waiting at frontier crossings to enter Czechoslovakia.

Aug. 20.—Bela Tuka, former Premier of Slovakia during the war, was executed, after being convicted of breaking up the Czechoslovak Republic and aiding Germany.

Aug. 22.—The Communist paper *Rude Pravo* (official organ of the Prime Minister's party) published an article on the Calcutta riots in which it stated that the British policy of "divide and conquer" was the real reason behind all the bloodshed in Greece, Palestine, India, and elsewhere.

Aug. 23.—The British Chargé d'Affaires made a strong protest to the Foreign Ministry against the *Rude Pravo* article.

DENMARK. Aug. 17.—Trade Agreement with Russia. (see the U.S.S.R.)

Aug. 19.—An agreement with Britain was signed providing for the sending of 10,000 tons of frozen beef and 40,000 head of live cattle to the British zone of Germany during the autumn and winter.

EGYPT. Aug. 12.—The Foreign Ministers of the Arab States, after a meeting in Alexandria, stated that they had reached unanimous decisions on the main points about policy towards Palestine.

The Mufti of Jerusalem told the press that in the conflict with Britain the Arabs were the plaintiffs because they had been deprived of liberty and independence in their own homeland. The charge that he had been, and still was, anti-British was untrue. One of his most cherished hopes was to see his country living in friendship with Britain and all other nations. As to his flight to Germany, it was the only alternative to arrest and exile by the British. His sole crime had been that he stood in the way of Zionist aims. If British policy were right and just and did not give in to Zionism or imperialism, he would act

accordingly. He was certain that Palestine could never be turned into a Jewish State without perpetual disturbances and bloodshed.

Aug. 14.—The Foreign Ministers of the Arab States decided that each Arab country should send 2 delegates to London who would be bound only by decisions reached by the Arab League at Bludan and by a refusal to consider partition.

The Egyptian Ambassador in London arrived in Egypt with a memorandum containing British proposals regarding the treaty.

Aug. 20.—The treaty delegation unanimously rejected the latest British proposals.

Aug. 21.—The Premier presented the text of the decision taken by the treaty delegation to Lord Stansgate and the British Ambassador. It stated that the delegation had considered the recent British proposals but did not regard them of such a nature as to cause them to modify their attitude. "In consequence they declare that they stand by their Note presented on Aug. 1, 1946 and to the texts which accompany it." A statement issued after the meeting with the British representatives emphasized that the field remained open for a new exchange of views.

Aug. 22.—The Arab League sent a Note to the British Government requesting British recognition of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem as the Arabs' leader in Palestine.

FRANCE. *Aug. 12.*—The Greek Premier, speaking to the press, justified the claim to Northern Epirus on the grounds that Greece's right to this province had been recognized on several occasions by international acts, but power politics in the form of Austro-Hungarian or Italian pressure had each time prevented its annexation by Greece; and that its annexation would improve Greek security. He said it would be some time before Greece could make good the losses inflicted by the war. Between 1939 and 1945 13 per cent of the population had lost their lives, and a quarter of the population had been made homeless. Agricultural production had declined during the war by between 45 and 50 per cent. Live stock and poultry had fallen by half, 64.5 per cent of mercantile shipping had been lost, and 90 per cent of railway rolling stock.

Aug. 17.—The British Colonial Secretary and 3 Jewish Agency leaders arrived by air in Paris.

Aug. 18.—Mr. Bevin, Mr. Hall, and the 3 Jewish Agency leaders conferred together on Palestine.

Aug. 19.—Gen. Smuts arrived in Paris.

Aug. 23.—The Jewish Agency meeting in Paris ended, and the executive announced that it had "made the necessary provision for further Jewish immigration and new settlement on the land". It also agreed on measures to mobilize the support of the whole Jewish people for the Yishuv (Jewish community) in "its courageous stand". It was decided not to take part in any discussions on the basis of the plan outlined by the British Government in Palestine.

Aug. 24.—M. Manuilsky told the press in Paris that he had written

to Mr. Trygve Lie to call the Security Council's attention to the threat to peace in the Balkans owing to the ill-considered policy pursued by the Greek Government. Numerous border incidents on the Albanian frontier were being provoked by units of the Greek Army, which were systematically firing both on frontier guards and peasants. He also drew attention to the persecution of national minorities in Macedonia, Thrace, and the Epirus by the Greeks, which had caused a flood of refugees crossing into Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

The situation created by Greek policy was favoured by the presence of British forces in Greece and by the direct interference of British military representatives in the internal affairs of Greece. He invoked Article 34 of the Charter and asked for his appeal to be considered by the Council at its next session.

Dr. Evatt left Paris for Australia.

Aug. 25.—Mr. Mackenzie King left Paris for Ottawa.

GERMANY. Aug. 16.—Gen. McNarney, in his monthly report on the U.S. zone, stated that the Communist programme and that of the Socialist Unity Party contained "a threat to resort to revolutionary means if the capitalist class forsakes the ground of democracy". Their minimum programme called for the establishment of an "anti-Fascist parliamentary democratic republic" with the "total elimination from public life and from all offices and industrial management of Fascists and reactionaries", and democratic land reform also. "From the Marxist point of view, these goals mean a virtual social and economic revolution aimed at destroying the economic basis of the capitalist system, of freedom of enterprise, and of private ownership of the means of production." The Christian Democrats, he said, "sharply reject Marxist Socialism".

Aug. 19.—The Social Democrat Party of Berlin, after its delegate conference, advised Social Democrats in the Russian zone to go to the polls in the forthcoming elections but to spoil their voting papers and to make sure their votes were invalid. They were particularly asked not to vote for any other party.

Aug. 20.—The whole of the iron and steel industry in the British zone was taken over by the Military Government with the object of reducing the capacity of the industry to peace-time needs; of breaking up the concentration of economic power; and of preparing the industry for reorganization. The working of the plants was to be supervised by a body called the North German Iron and Steel Control. The undertakings concerned were never to be returned to their former private owners, though there was no intention of appropriating Allied and neutral interests.

At the Allied Control Council a complaint was made by Marshal Sokolovsky against speeches made at the Berlin Social Democratic Party's Congress and the manifesto calling on former Social Democrats in the Russian zone to spoil their ballot papers. These activities were regarded as open sabotage and disruption of the measures of the Soviet military administration. The British military administration probably

encouraged the publication of provocative articles in the press directed at discrediting Soviet measures.

At a meeting of the Allied commandants in Berlin, a British protest was made against anti-British articles in the Soviet-controlled press.

Aug. 22.—A Russian citizen who on her own admission acted as an agent for the Russian N.K.V.D. in the U.S. zone was handed over to the Soviet repatriation mission.

Aug. 23.—Ratification was announced in Berlin of an agreement between the British and Americans permitting freer travel between the two zones as from Sept. 1.

Gen. Robertson, opening the newly formed Landtag of Hanover which elevated it from the status of a province to that of a state, said Hanover had now regained something of its historical place in the administrative scheme of things. After describing the measures taken to help bring order out of chaos in the British zone, he said the path to economic recovery in future, though not easy or short, was open for Germans, and that the British would help them to tread it.

Aug. 24.—Press reports from Berlin of the working of a newly-formed Corporation of Soviet Industries (S.K.T.B.) stated that the Russians had recently taken over more than 200 of the most important industrial works in their zone, including the I.G. Farben works in Saxony, the Zeiss optical works, the Krupp factory at Magdeburg, and most of the chemical, iron, steel, and cement plants, coal and potash mines, and leather, textile, and musical instrument factories.

Dr. Kopf, the Premier of Hanover, outlining his Government's policy before the Landtag, said that to combat hunger the Government would encourage agricultural production, and solidly support land reform as a means to this end.

Aug. 25.—The Soviet news bureau in Berlin reported that more than 50,000 German prisoners of war had been released from the Soviet Union.

GREAT BRITAIN. *Aug. 12.*—The Government received a Note from the Soviet Ambassador containing the suggestions that Russia had made to Turkey on Aug. 8 for the revision of the Montreux Convention.

Aug. 15.—The Colonial Secretary invited members of the Jewish Agency Executive to a conference in London on Palestine.

Aug. 16.—The Jewish Agency Executive replied to Mr. Hall's invitation, stating that it could not negotiate on the federal plan, that it demanded fuller freedom to choose its own delegates, and that all invitations should be issued through the Agency for any delegates from Jewish organizations other than the Agency.

Aug. 19.—The Government published 2 Notes sent to the Yugoslav Government with a commentary upon them. The first Note, of Aug. 16, cited instances in June and July when Yugoslav troops had unauthorizedly crossed the Morgan Line and opened fire without provocation on Allied troops. The Government protested in the "strongest terms" against this. While it regretted the losses suffered by the

Yugoslav troops in these incidents, it said it could not hold itself responsible as Allied forces had begun "firing in self-defence only after Yugoslav forces had first opened fire".

The Foreign Office comment after the text of this Note was that on the evening of Aug. 14 "the Yugoslav Government delivered to H.M. Embassy a Note containing offensive allegations against the A.M.G. of Zone A, which appeared in the Belgrade press of Aug. 15 before H.M. representatives had seen it. It went on: "H.M.G. are aware that it is the policy of the Yugoslav Government to do their utmost to discredit H.M.G. and the Anglo-U.S. forces in the Trieste area, and that their Note of Aug. 14 was sent with that motive." The extravagance of its terms did not, therefore, surprise them. Meanwhile "it is desired to correct the impression given in the Yugoslav Note that no answer has been returned to previous Yugoslav démarches on this subject". For this purpose, a previous Note sent to the Yugoslav Government on May 20 was published.

In this earlier Note previous Yugoslav protests, culminating in the "wholly unfounded charges of Marshal Tito that 12 trains and 70 trucks full of armed Fascists from Italy were sent into Trieste and Gorizia with the approval of the A.M.G." were rejected as "unwarranted". The A.M.G. had endeavoured to govern Zone A fairly. "To this end they have established a democratic system of administration based upon the Italian prefectorial system, purged of all measures inspired by Fascist ideology. They have allowed the Yugoslav system of local government by committee, which was imposed by the Yugoslav Army during its occupation of the area, to remain in existence." They had purged the police, re-established Slovene schools, and reformed the educational system, besides proceeding with arrangements for local elections. Facilities had been granted to the Yugoslav Government to maintain 2,000 men in the area for inspection purposes. These facilities had not been reciprocated by the Yugoslav Government in Zone B.

Far from being co-operative, "the Yugoslav Government has by every means in its power, and particularly by a provocative campaign in the press and on the wireless, encouraged the pro-Yugoslav population in Trieste and Zone A . . . to obstruct the A.M.G. in the performance of its duties, to promote industrial discontent, to hinder the educational programme, and to intimidate those inhabitants of the area who are not in favour of its incorporation into Yugoslavia". Examples of provocation were given, such as the supply of newsprint to pro-Slav propagandists, untrue allegations of Fascism about the police, and the giving of fictitious names, arming pro-Slav groups in Zone B, and bringing them into Zone A for demonstrations, fomenting through the P.N.O.O. strikes and the usurpation of the Government's powers, and encouraging criminal activities of O.Z.N.A. members who were sent from Zone B to abduct civilians. The Note continued:

"H.M.G. . . . have been forced to conclude that the provocative activities of the P.N.O.O. (National Liberation Committee of the Slovene Littoral) . . . have been encouraged and directed by Yugoslav officials." Confirmation of this point was sought.

The Note went on to say that H.M.G. had shown themselves ready to examine all justified complaints and to remove the grounds for them, "as is shown by the fact that strict instructions have been given to avoid any further unauthorized flights over Yugoslavia . . . and that . . . measures have been taken to round up any members of the Ustasa movement and other Yugoslav quislings". But "they are forced . . . to conclude from the manner in which such complaints have been made public that they are part of a concerted campaign in which the most trivial incident is used as an attempt to discredit the A.M.G." Marshal Tito's description of unauthorized flights as a threat to peace and a matter for reference to the Security Council was quoted as an example of this attitude. The Note concluded by expressing a hope for better co-operation in the future.

Aug. 21.—Mr. Hynd, reviewing policy in the British zone of Germany, said he believed that the quality of the control staff was improving and that, apart from isolated cases, the standard of conduct was extremely high. The strictest watch was kept on discipline. Shipments of food to the British zone had tended to be both late and short. It was intended, in collaboration with the U.S. zone, to restore the ration to 1,550 calories in the course of the next few months. Exports of coal for September would be maintained at their existing level. With the economic link-up between the British and U.S. zones, policy in both would be to encourage handing over of responsibility to Germans. An advisory board of Germans drawn from both zones would be established and a German executive board under British and U.S. supervision would carry out allied decisions. The first task was to set up a German organization for food and agriculture to cover both zones. This would be followed by similar organizations for trade and industry, transport and communications, and finance.

Aug. 22.—A Polish Embassy spokesman, referring to the recent British Note about elections in Poland, said that there was no provision under the Potsdam and Crimea Agreements for the outside supervision of Polish electoral law or of Polish party politics. The request in the British Note, to supervise or express opinion on the electoral law, was not in accordance with the rights of any sovereign State. The Polish Government took exception to the fact that criticism in the Note of the conduct of the referendum had been based purely on anonymous allegations.

Note from the Polish Government *re* Gen. Anders's army. (*see Poland.*)

Aug. 23.—Protest to the Czechoslovak Government against article in an official newspaper. (*see Czechoslovakia.*)

GREECE. *Aug. 12.*—M. Tsaldaris's statement in Paris. (*see France.*)

Aug. 16.—Five soldiers and 4 civilians, sentenced by a court-martial at Kilkis, Macedonia, for taking part in the activities of armed Communist bands, were executed.

Aug. 19.—The Allied Mission (which had been observing for 6 weeks the compilation of the Greek electoral lists), issuing its report, expressed

itself "satisfied that the revision and re-compilation of the lists attained a degree of fairness and accuracy which justifies their use in seeking the opinion of the Greek people on matters of national import". The Mission consisted of British and U.S. representatives and employed 66 observer teams.

Aug. 21.—The Yugoslav Ambassador was recalled as a protest against "the generally unfriendly attitude of the Greek Government towards Yugoslavia".

Aug. 22.—The leader of the Liberal Party denounced the conditions under which the plebiscite was to be held. He said that the free and unbiased opinion of popular will was impossible at a time when anarchy and civil strife, fostered by the Government, prevailed throughout the country. Under the pretext of stamping out anarchist gangs, State organizations were co-operating with royalist bands in terrorizing the people. The Liberal Party felt that the plebiscite would not settle but would perpetuate the constitutional issue. Nevertheless they would take part in it so as to be able to check the way it was conducted.

Aug. 24.—Charges against Greece by the Ukrainian delegate to the Paris conference. (*see France.*)

Aug. 25.—U.S. decision regarding observation of the plebiscite. (*see U.S.A.*)

INDIA. Aug. 12.—The Government announced that the Viceroy had invited Pandit Nehru to make proposals for the immediate formation of an interim Government, and that he had accepted this invitation.

Mr. Jinnah, commenting on the Congress resolution, said that it "does not carry us anywhere because it is only a repetition of the Congress stand taken by them from the very beginning, only put in different language and phraseology".

Aug. 13.—Pandit Nehru stated that he would welcome the co-operation of the Muslim League in forming a coalition Government.

Aug. 14.—The Sikhs decided to enter the Constituent Assembly "when the opportunity comes", and to enter the interim Government.

Aug. 15.—Pandit Nehru met Mr. Jinnah in Bombay. Correspondence between them was published in which Mr. Nehru said: "I feel that my first step should be to seek your co-operation in the formation of a Coalition Provisional Government." Mr. Jinnah replied: "If the Viceroy's invitation to you means that he has commissioned you to form the Governor General's Executive Council and has already agreed to accept and act upon your advice and proceed to constitute his executive accordingly, it is not possible for me to accept such a position on that basis. However, if you care to meet me . . . to settle the Hindu-Moslem question . . . I shall be glad to see you." Mr. Nehru replied that there was no arrangement with the Viceroy other than the offer for Congress to make proposals for an interim Government.

Aug. 16.—During the Muslim observance of "Direct Action Day" in Calcutta 90 people were killed, and about 900 injured when Muslim mobs scoured the city, attacking Hindus and setting fire to buildings.

A curfew was imposed. The day was observed elsewhere without violent incidents.

Pandit Nehru, referring to his meeting with Mr. Jinnah, told the press that "We had, as usual, a friendly talk, but I am sorry it did not bring us politically nearer to one another." The Congress Working Committee did not think of accepting office in order to function as a kind of Viceroy's Executive Council, but they could not stand still because of the unfortunate lack of co-operation from the Muslim League. They still hoped for Muslim co-operation.

Aug. 18.—The curfew was raised, and disturbances began anew in Calcutta, the Hindus hitting back at the Muslims. The total casualties since Aug. 16 were believed to be about 1,000 killed and 4,000 injured.

The general secretary of the All-India Students' Federation issued an appeal to students throughout India to do their best to ensure communal peace. "All the hopes of our becoming united and strong enough to force the British to quit India will be dashed to the ground", he said, "if the country is engulfed in such a suicidal struggle among ourselves."

Mr. Jinnah, in a statement, unreservedly condemned the acts of violence and deeply sympathized with those who had suffered. He could not believe, he said, that any member of the Muslim League would take part in violence. If any had broken the strict and solemn instructions to conduct themselves peacefully, no doubt the provincial Muslim League would take immediate action against them. He suggested the disturbances might have been caused by *agents provocateurs*. Mr. Nehru accused the Muslim Government of Bengal of incompetence.

Dr. Azad told the press that "Congress is prepared to form a Government on the same basis as before: a Cabinet of 14, with 6 representatives of Congress, 5 of the Moslem League, and 3 from other minorities."

Mr. Jinnah told the press that the deadlock between Congress and the League on the subject of a Provisional Government was absolute. The question now was whether Congress was going to be installed in power "to rule the Muslims and minorities with the help of British blood and treasure. It is inconceivable that Mr. Attlee could ever have meant this".

Aug. 19.—The Bengal Government announced that the disturbances in Calcutta were under control and that there had been a marked improvement throughout the city by the end of the day.

British and Indian troops patrolled the streets, while Hindu and Muslim organizations and bands of volunteers escorted panic-stricken people to safer areas. The military moved 15,000 persons by lorry to safety zones. The Bengal Government appealed to the public to help in the removal of corpses from the streets.

Aug. 20.—It was estimated that about 4,000 people had been killed and 10,000 wounded in the Calcutta riots. Starvation was evident in many parts of the city owing to the closure and destruction of shops and the cessation of all transport during the disturbances.

Aug. 21.—Police opened fire to disperse crowds taking part in

rioting at Dacca, Eastern Bengal. 10 people were killed and 15 injured.

Aug. 22.—In Calcutta 24 more people were stabbed, 12 fatally.

Aug. 23.—Disturbances occurred in the coalfields in West Bengal. At Allahabad rioting broke out, and a curfew was imposed.

Aug. 24.—Pandit Nehru formed an interim Government, with Mr. Vallabhai Patel, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Mr. Rajagopalachari, Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose (Congress Hindus), Mr. Asaf Ali, Syed Ali Zaheer, and Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan (Congress Muslims), Dr. John Matthai (Indian Christian), Sardar Baldev Singh (Sikh), Mr. Jagjivan (Depressed Classes), and Mr. Bhabha (Parsi).

The Viceroy, in a broadcast, offered to reform the Government at once if the Muslim League would agree to come in, and invited Mr. Jinnah to nominate 5 names, for a Government of 15. The League, he said, "need have no fear of being outvoted on any essential, on condition that both main parties to it are satisfied. I shall see to it that the most important portfolios are equitably shared".

He assured the Muslim League that there could be no change in fundamental principles proposed for the Constituent Assembly in the Cabinet Mission statement of May 16, including the framing of provincial and group constitutions. Decisions on the main communal issues would be subject to a majority of both major communities, while Congress was ready to agree that any dispute in interpretation should be referred to a federal Court. He also said he would implement fully the policy of H.M.G. of giving the new Government the maximum freedom in day-to-day administration.

The working committee of the Bengal Provincial Muslim League passed a resolution that "the setting up of an interim Government by the Viceroy with Congress and without the League is bound to create the strongest resentment throughout Muslim India".

A railway strike began, on the South India Railway.

Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan was stabbed and seriously wounded in Simla by 2 youths. (He had resigned from the Muslim League the previous week and had accepted office in the interim Government.) In Delhi a man was killed and 30 people injured in riots.

Aug. 25.—Mr. Jinnah, in a statement, said the Viceroy, in his broadcast, was misleading and inaccurate in saying that "though 5 seats out of 14 were offered to the Muslim League, though assurances were given that the scheme of constitution-making would be worked in accordance with the procedure laid down, and though the interim Government is to operate under the existing Constitution, it has not been possible to secure a coalition". He said the Viceroy had written to him on July 22 making proposals which were substantially different from the interim Government proposals embodied in the statement of June 16 and the assurances given to the Muslim League, and he asked the Viceroy to explain this.

He also published the text of the letter and of his reply of July 31 and the Viceroy's further letter of Aug. 8, and complained that the Viceroy's suggestion of a basis for the formation of a Government—6-5-3—was the fourth proposal, and that every time previous proposals

were turned down to appease Congress the change was prejudicial to the League. This gave the "go-by" to all important terms in favour of the League. (Previous proposals had been for 5 Congress, 5 Muslim, and 2 minorities, followed by 5-5-3, and 5-5-4.)

IRAQ. *Aug. 12.*—British troops from India arrived at Basra.

ITALY. *Aug. 13.*—In reply to the British Note asking for measures to be taken to check illegal migration of Jews to Palestine the Government said they would do their utmost to meet British wishes.

Aug. 17.—The Communist press published violent attacks on the Premier's handling of Italy's interests at the conference in Paris.

Aug. 24.—In the Council of Ministers, Sr. de Gasperi defended himself against the attacks by the Communist press, explaining that his suggestion for a postponement of a definite solution of the Trieste problem did not mean delay in the conclusion of the peace treaty or in the withdrawal of occupation forces. He pointed out that Italian diplomats at Moscow and Warsaw had approached Yugoslav leaders to open direct negotiations, but their efforts had been in vain. Sr. Scoccimarro, the Communist Minister of the Treasury, said that the press campaign was not the official policy of his party, whose leaders were on holiday at the time. The Council then approved unanimously a statement by the Premier on the result of the delegation's mission in Paris.

Affrays between Italians and Allied soldiers at Mestre and Venice resulted in a British soldier and a woman being killed. They were attributed very largely to resentment at the terms of the peace treaty.

JAPAN. *Aug. 18.*—The Allies granted to workers the right to organize and bargain collectively. It was learnt that as a result of the Government's decision to dismiss 75,000 railway workers as an economy measure a railway strike had been announced for Sept. 15.

JAVA. *Aug. 20.*—Dr. van Mook stated in Batavia that Dutch policy towards the East Indies would not change when British and Indian troops had all withdrawn. The Netherlands had not the slightest intention of restoring anything like a Colonial system, but on the contrary thought that Indonesia should become a self-governing nation as quickly as possible. He was convinced that the best way of effecting this reorganization was for Indonesia to start within the kingdom of the Netherlands.

PALESTINE. *Aug. 12.*—A British destroyer escorted 2 ships with nearly 1,000 immigrants into Haifa harbour.

The trial of 19 men and 4 girls at Haifa, charged with attacking the railway shops at Haifa, was held up when the accused, refusing to recognize the jurisdiction of the court or the validity of the criminal proceedings, insisted on singing in the dock.

Statement by the Mufti of Jerusalem. (*see Egypt.*)

Aug. 13.—About 900 illegal immigrants were induced by British troops to leave the 2 ships in Haifa harbour and to go aboard British ships which left with them for Cyprus. Resistance was offered.

The "Voice of Israel" radio called on Haifa citizens to break the curfew imposed during the operation from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. In demonstrations of protest which followed 3 persons were killed and 9 wounded when British troops tried to enforce the curfew.

The Jewish Agency (which had been informed at 2 a.m. of the forthcoming action by the British military authorities and had been asked to give their co-operation) issued a statement declaring "It ill behoves a Government which starts by barring the way of Jewish immigrants to their homeland to justify this act by a so-called defence of the right of legal immigrants, or to pretend anxiety about the conditions under which the refugees are reaching Palestine," and blamed the Government for limiting the immigration quota to 1,500 a month. "The attempt made . . . to divide the Jews into extremists and moderates will not succeed. All the 600,000 Jews of Palestine and Jews the world over will, as has been done in the past, give all their support to any Jew seeking to return to his homeland."

The Jewish National Council decided that in view of the "arbitrary British deportation of Jewish refugees", a policy of non-co-operation would be enforced against the local administration.

Aug. 15.—Mr. Hall's invitation to the Jewish Agency Executive. (*see Great Britain.*)

Aug. 16.—A British Military Court sentenced to death 18 members of the Stern Gang found guilty on charges arising out of the terrorist attack on Haifa railway workshops on June 17. Four women were sentenced to life imprisonment.

Reply of the Jewish Agency Executive to Mr. Hall's invitation. (*see Great Britain.*)

Aug. 18.—After tear gas had been used, Jewish illegal immigrants were transferred from 2 vessels in Haifa Bay to 2 British ships. Later 800 Jews left for Cyprus in one of them.

The Irgun Zvai Leumi threatened reprisal murders if the death sentence was carried out on the 18 members of the Stern Gang.

Aug. 21.—Posters signed by the Stern Gang reading, "Civil officials, members of the police and the C.I.P. and the British forces will be killed wherever they may be if the sentences are carried out" (against the 18 Jews condemned to death for terrorism), were placed on walls all over Palestine. They also contained a message to the condemned men and read, "You may be assured that, if you die, none of your hangmen will survive".

The ship *Empire Rival*, which had returned from Cyprus and was lying in Haifa Bay, was mined and holed below the waterline by saboteurs.

Aug. 23.—Statement by the Jewish Agency after its Paris meeting. (*see France.*)

The *Empire Rival* docked for repairs. The *Empire Heywood* left for Cyprus with 600 immigrants.

Aug. 25.—The Arab Higher Executive Committee resolved that in its reply to the British Government's invitation to a conference, it would ask that all 5 members of the Executive, including the Mufti of Jerusalem, should be invited.

PERSIA. Aug. 15.—A Note was received by the Government from the British Ambassador which described as completely unfounded reports that British forces sent to Basra had been instructed to enter Persian territory "in any case". Referring to recent events in S.W. Persia the British Government expressed appreciation of the Government's quick and successful efforts to re-establish order and security, and agreed that the establishment of law and order was the duty of the Persian Government forces exclusively.

POLAND. Aug. 12.—It was learnt that an agreement had been signed with the Soviet Government on Aug. 6 handing over control of the Oder to the Polish authorities.

Aug. 17.—It was learnt that the Government had sent a Note to the British Ambassador announcing its intention in the future to extend Consular protection to all Poles whether or not they were willing to return to Poland; and its readiness to co-operate with the British Government in the organization of the Resettlement Corps, so long as it had no military character.

Aug. 19.—Officials estimated that since July 4 between 25,000 and 30,000 Jews had left the country.

The Government received a Note from the British Ambassador, reminding it of its undertakings to hold elections in 1946, and expressing concern because it appeared that grave irregularities had occurred in connection with the referendum and because democratic parties were not receiving equal freedom and facilities to engage in political activity. It was stressed that certain conditions were essential for the carrying out of free elections, e.g. representation of all parties on electoral commissions, the count of votes in the presence of representatives of all parties, the immediate publication in each district of election results, and a system of appeal in the event of election disputes. A copy of the text of the electoral law was requested.

Aug. 22.—Statement of Polish spokesman on the elections. (see *Great Britain*.)

It was learnt that the Government had sent a Note to London regarding the Polish Resettlement Corps. The Government would give emigration facilities to ex-soldiers wishing to settle in civilian life abroad, and if later they wished to return home, they would have all facilities for doing so. It asked, however, why it was necessary to keep the men in military units under command of Polish officers, when the natural thing would be to group them according to the professions they meant to follow. The demobilization of Gen. Anders's soldiers was long overdue.

RUMANIA. *Aug. 15.*—It was learnt that on Aug. 9 an attack had been made by Communists on M. Penescu, secretary-general of the National Peasants' Party, and on others of the Party. One member had been killed, and M. Penescu was injured.

SIAM. *Aug. 21.*—The Prime Minister resigned.

Aug. 23.—A joint session of the State Council and the Assembly elected Luang Dhamrong Nawasawat Prime Minister.

SINGAPORE. *Aug. 13.*—A S.E. Asia food conference opened in Singapore.

SPAIN. *Aug. 18.*—The Government announced that in all Spain there were only 35,000 prisoners. Of these 5,400 were held for their activities during the civil war, as prisoners-of-war. "In Spain there are no political prisoners," it added. "Originally there were 300,000 political and war prisoners, but since September 1945 22,000 have been set free."

Aug. 21.—The Government invited Germans whose repatriation was demanded by the Allied Control Commission to leave Spain on Sept. 1. Leon Degrelle, the Rexist leader, was given 8 days to leave Spain.

Aug. 23.—It was stated officially at San Sebastian that Degrelle left Spanish territory on the night of Aug. 21, in compliance with the expulsion order, and that the Belgian Embassy had been informed accordingly.

TURKEY. *Aug. 12.*—It was learnt that the Government had received a Note from the Soviet Chargé d'Affaires on Aug. 8 requesting a modification of the Montreux Convention.

Aug. 13.—Publication of the Soviet proposals for the revision of the Montreux Convention. (*see the U.S.S.R.*)

Aug. 14.—The new Premier, outlining the Government's programme in the National Assembly, said: "Our foreign policy is based on national sovereignty . . . and respect for the rights of other nations. Our relations with Great Britain are based on the alliance signed in 1939 . . . In the future, as in the past, the Turco-British alliance will constitute the principal basis of our foreign policy." Referring to the Soviet Note, he said: "In this matter we are bound by international treaties." The Government were ready to negotiate with the Allies and interested States to revise the Montreux Convention.

Aug. 22.—The Government handed a Note on the Straits to the Soviet Ambassador. Copies were sent to the other signatories of the Montreux Convention.

Aug. 24.—The Note to the Soviet Government was published. It denied the Soviet accusations about violations by Axis shipping of the Montreux Convention. It agreed that "the technical wording of the Convention needs remodelling in the light of modern experience". Although reconsideration was not due till 1956, Turkey would not

raise any objection if it was reconsidered in the near future, provided that Britain and the U.S.A. agreed to this. Under certain conditions and provisions Turkey was ready to attend such a conference. It went on, "Not the Black Sea Powers . . . but the signatories of the Montreux Convention have the right to attend a new conference". The Russian claim that only Black Sea Powers should decide the future of the Straits was not consistent with Turkish national dignity or with previous international agreements. "The security of the Straits rests in the hands of Turkey, who has never in her history been involved in a war of aggression and who is ready to maintain the security of passage through the Straits".

Reports of the Soviet news agency in Beirut that airfields were being built in Turkey under British supervision were denied by a Turkish news agency.

Aug. 25.—The Government sent a Note to the Yugoslav Government requesting the immediate release of the Turkish passenger of the U.S. aircraft shot down on Aug. 9. (He was in hospital at Ljubljana.)

U.S.A. *Aug. 13.*—The Government announced its recognition of the new Bolivian Government.

Aug. 16.—A statement was issued saying that "Although the President has been exchanging views with Mr. Attlee on the subject, this Government has not presented any plan of its own for a solution of the present problem of Palestine. It is the sincere hope of the President, however, that, as a result of the proposed conversations between the British Government and Jewish and Arab representatives, a fair solution of the problem of Palestine can be found and immediate steps can be taken to alleviate the situation of displaced Jews in Europe." After stressing the need for a conciliatory spirit and the difficulty of achieving a settlement satisfactory to all parties, attention was drawn to the fact that "a solution of the Palestine question will not in itself solve the broader problem of the hundreds of thousands of displaced persons in Europe". The President hoped that arrangements could be entered into "which will make it possible for various countries, including the U.S.A., to admit many of these persons as permanent residents. The President . . . is contemplating seeking the approval of Congress for special legislation authorizing the entry into U.S.A. of a fixed number of these persons, including Jews".

Aug. 20.—Note to Soviet Government about the Montreux Convention. (*see the U.S.S.R.*)

Yugoslav Note to Government. (*see Yugoslavia.*)

The Government handed a Note to the Yugoslav Chargé d'Affaires demanding the release within 48 hours of the U.S. airmen shot down in Yugoslavia and permission for the U.S. representatives to investigate the disappearance of an aircraft on Aug. 19. The Note went on: "If within that time these demands are not complied with, the U.S. Government will call upon the Security Council . . . to meet promptly and to take appropriate action". The use of force by Yugoslavia was

a plain violation of the U.N.O. Charter provision that force should not be used except in self-defence. "Deliberate firing without warning on unarmed passenger planes of a friendly nation is . . . an offence against the law of nations and the principles of humanity."

Aug. 21.—The State Department published the text of its Note to the Soviet Government about the revision of the Montreux Convention. It stated that it found that the views of the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. "while not in entire accord are in general agreement" upon the first three elements in the administration of the Dardanelles laid down in the Soviet Note. Regarding the suggestion for the "establishment of a new régime which would be confined to Turkey and other Black Sea Powers", the U.S. view was that the régime of the Straits was a matter of concern also to other Powers, including U.S.A., which could not therefore agree that the Straits should come under the competence of the Black Sea Powers to the exclusion of others. The U.S. Government also asserted its "firm opinion" that Turkey should continue to be "primarily responsible" for the defence of the Straits. "Should the Straits become the object of attack or threat of attack by an aggressor, the resulting situation would constitute a threat to international security and would clearly be a matter for action on the part of the Security Council." It was noted that the Russian Note contained no reference to U.N.O., and the position of the U.S.A. was "that the régime of the Straits should be brought into appropriate relationship with U.N.O.". Finally, the U.S. Government reaffirmed its willingness to take part in a conference called to revise the Convention.

Yugoslav Note to the U.S. Government about unauthorized 'plane flights. (*see Yugoslavia.*)

Aug. 23.—The acting Secretary of State told the press that the Government was not yet satisfied that Yugoslavia had complied with the terms of their Note. No report had yet reached the State Department about the second aircraft, all of whose occupants were, it was feared, killed. Nor had news been received from the Ambassador in Belgrade, so there was neither confirmation nor denial of reports that Tito had engaged that Yugoslav 'planes would not again fire on foreign aircraft, and that his troops would refrain from provoking allied troops near Trieste.

Aug. 24.—The State Department announced that on the basis of messages from the Ambassador to Yugoslavia, the U.S. demands presented in Belgrade "appear to have been complied with". As stated in the Note of Aug. 21, in this situation the Government would determine its course in the light of evidence secured and the efforts of the Yugoslav Government to right the wrong done when fighters shot down 2 unarmed U.S. 'planes, with the loss of 5 lives.

It published 2 cables from the Ambassador and a letter to him from Marshal Tito. Mr. Patterson said that the Marshal had told him that the incidents were not the result of any special order and emphatically not retaliation for Yugoslavs shot by U.S. border patrols. He had given orders that no foreign 'planes were to be shot at in any circumstances. He also agreed to meet the demands in the U.S. Note. Mr. Patterson

also said the second aircraft and the remains of its occupants had been found.

Marshal Tito's letter, dated Aug. 23, said that the 'plane was 30 miles inside Yugoslavia, and the fighters had been inviting it to land for nearly 15 minutes. They also wanted to show the route to an airport 3 miles away but the aircraft definitely refused compliance with the order. It was notorious that the weather was absolutely clear at the time, with perfect visibility.

The Government announced that the U.S. Naval Attachés at Archangel and Vladivostok had been withdrawn at the request of the Soviet Government.

Aug. 25.—The Government announced that after discussions with the Greek Government it had been agreed to make informal and limited observation of the plebiscite in Greece on Sept. 1.

U.S.S.R. Aug. 12.—Control of the Oder handed over to Poland. (*see Poland.*)

Aug. 13.—The Note to Turkey of Aug. 8 about the Montreux Convention was published. The Soviet proposals were: (1) the Straits should always be open for the passage of merchant ships of all countries and for the passage of warships of the Black Sea Powers; (2) the passage of warships of non-Black Sea Powers should not be permitted, with the exception of cases specially provided for; (3) the establishment of the régime of the Straits as the sole sea route leading out of and into the Black Sea "must constitute the competence of Turkey and the other Black Sea Powers"; (4) Turkey and the Soviet Union, as the Powers most interested in and capable of ensuring the freedom of merchant shipping and security in the Straits, should organize by joint means the defence of the Straits to prevent their use by other States for purposes hostile to the Black Sea Powers. The Note referred to protests made during the war to Turkey against the passage of German and Italian auxiliary warships through the Straits, and the failure of the Convention to prevent this, adding, "the Turkish Government cannot but be held responsible for such a situation".

Aug. 17.—A 5-year trade and shipping agreement with Denmark was signed in Moscow, providing for most-favoured-nation treatment for customs, tariffs, and harbour dues.

Aug. 19.—*Pravda* said that the same principle should be applied to the Dardanelles as is applied to the Suez and Panama Canals.

Aug. 20.—A Note was received from the U.S. Government about the revision of the Montreux Convention.

Aug. 21.—Publication of the U.S. Note. (*see the U.S.A.*)

Aug. 23.—Moscow radio reported that the Yugoslav Government had brought charges against the U.S.A. in connection with Danube shipping before the Security Council.

Aug. 24.—M. Manuilsky's appeal to the Security Council about Greek policy and the threat to Balkan peace. (*see France.*)

Reports of Soviet seizure of industrial plant, etc., in Germany. (*see Germany.*)

It was announced in Moscow that M. Litvinov had been released from his duties as Deputy Foreign Minister, and had been succeeded by M. Gusev and M. Malik.

Withdrawal of U.S. Attachés from Vladivostok and Archangel. (see *U.S.A.*)

Publication of Turkish Note *re* the Montreux Convention. (see *Turkey.*)

YUGOSLAVIA. *Aug. 19.*—Publication of British Notes of May 20 and Aug. 16 regarding abuse and propaganda by official Yugoslav papers, etc., against the Allied troops in the Trieste area. (see *Great Britain.*)

Aug. 20.—Note from the U.S. Government about the shooting down of an American aircraft on Aug. 9. (see *U.S.A.*)

The Tanjug Agency published a Note from the Government to the U.S. Government protesting "most strongly against the constant and systematic flights of U.S. military aircraft over Yugoslav territory", and asking the U.S.A. to "take without delay strict measures to ensure that such violations of Yugoslav sovereignty shall cease". It said that ever since February an increasing number of allied aircraft had flown daily over north-west Yugoslavia and over territory in Yugoslav military occupation. Between July 16 and Aug. 8 172 'planes flew over Yugoslavia without permission, 87 of them bombers and 40 fighters. On Aug. 9 a C.47 flew over Ljubljana and did not respond to international call signs to land, but flew off towards the frontier. After intervention by Yugoslav fighters it was forced to land. It had 8 military personnel and 2 civilians on board.

A Note was handed to the U.S. Ambassador complaining that on Aug. 19 a U.S. aircraft passed over Bled and was invited to land by the Yugoslav air authorities, signals being given continually between 8.50 and 9.02 a.m. It refused to comply and was forced by fighters to land, when it caught fire and crashed. There were signs that, unfortunately, victims fell in this accident. The Note expressed regret, but placed the responsibility on the U.S. authorities and the crew, and said "the Government insists once more that the U.S. Government issue strict orders that no unauthorized flights be operated over Yugoslav territory".

Aug. 21.—Belgrade radio reported that Marshal Tito had stated, in a speech to workers at Jesenice, Slovenia, that he had witnessed the forced landing, and could confirm that signals to land had been given, and that the aircraft was not fired on after it landed.

Recall of Ambassador to Greece. (see *Greece.*)

Aug. 22.—Nine occupants of the U.S. transport 'plane forced down by Yugoslav fighters on Aug. 9 were released and taken by car to the Morgan Line near Gorizia.

Marshal Tito announced that he had "given the strictest orders" to Yugoslav Fourth Army commanders not to fire on foreign aircraft again, whether military or civil. He told the press that he thought the infringement of Yugoslav frontiers was deliberate and intended to

create the impression among the Yugoslavs that the forces of the U.S. Government were so overwhelming that the Yugoslav Government must "take everything". This "was especially shown in the cases of whole squadrons flying over".

Aug. 23.—Belgrade radio stated that Marshal Tito had "refused to accept the U.S. ultimatum", as the airmen had been freed. Statement by the U.S. acting Secretary of State. (*see U.S.A.*)

Aug. 24.—U.S. statement announcing Marshal Tito's compliance with demands. (*see U.S.A.*)

It was learnt that on Aug. 13 the Yugoslav vice-chairman of the U.N. Economic and Social Council had written to Mr. Trygve Lie complaining that the allied military authorities had refused to restore 167 vessels and barges which the Germans had brought to the upper reaches of the Danube when they left Yugoslavia.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT ON PALESTINE

The British Government issued a statement on Aug. 12 announcing their determination not to tolerate illegal immigration into Palestine, which threatened the country with both civil war and a breakdown of government. It described how Britain had consistently been a friend of the Jewish people, citing examples such as the admittance of refugees before the war. During the war, "altogether 200,000 refugees—a large proportion of them Jews—landed in Britain . . . Under the British Mandate nearly 500,000 Jews settled legally in Palestine . . . Such is the record of this island, now the subject of bitter and unfair attack by many—though by no means all—Jews, on account of the unhappy events in Palestine".

The statement went on to detail the facts about illegal immigration: in Dec. 1945 the quota of 75,000 Jewish immigrants permitted to enter Palestine under the provisions of the White Paper was exhausted. Pending a final decision on Palestine, H.M.G. allowed 1,500 Jewish immigrants a month to enter, but this quota had been more than taken up by illegal immigrants. Those already held in camps or in ships at Haifa were more than sufficient to absorb the whole quota for many months ahead. Moved by sympathy for them H.M.G. had hitherto allowed them to land, despite the embarrassment caused. "The patience, forbearance, and humanity thus shown by H.M.G. have, however, been interpreted by those responsible for the traffic as a sign of weakness and as an encouragement to redouble their efforts to increase the flow of illegal immigrants still further . . . Recent developments have revealed the illegal immigrant traffic as a widely ramified and highly organized movement, supported by very large financial contributions from Zionist sources, which has been built up and put into operation by unscrupulous persons in an attempt to force the hand of H.M.G. and anticipate their decision on future policy in Palestine."

The statement continued:

"The organizers maintain a closely knit network of agents in the countries of eastern and southern Europe, by whom considerable numbers of displaced Jews are moved from points of departure as far distant as Poland down to the Mediterranean seaboard. Thence, herded into overcrowded and unseaworthy ships with insufficient food, and in conditions of the utmost privation and squalor, they are brought across the Mediterranean, inspired by a conviction carefully instilled into them that this is their only road to safety. In all this process the laws and regulations of the countries concerned are ignored; identity and ration cards, travel documents, etc., are forged on a large scale; food, clothing, medical supplies, and transport, provided by U.N.R.R.A. and other agencies for the relief of suffering in Europe, are diverted to the maintenance of what is openly described as 'the underground railway to Palestine'."

Distress at the continuance of anti-Semitism and pogroms in Europe and a hope "that the Governments of the countries concerned will bring this shame to a sharp and decisive end" was expressed.

Apart from its illegality, the immigration was a source of grave danger to law and order in Palestine, greatly increasing the tension between Arabs and Jews, especially as there was evidence that the terrorist elements among the Jews had been reinforced by it. It was "operating with great unfairness towards those Jews who would otherwise have been able to enter Palestine legally under the quota . . . It is also a matter of concern to H.M.G. that a large proportion of the illegal immigrants come from countries of eastern Europe, and not from the displaced persons centres in Germany, Austria, and Italy, to the emptying of which the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry attached great importance. The continuance of this traffic at the present time is likely to have an adverse effect on the hope of a general settlement in Palestine". Plans, designed to increase immigration, under conditions which would not disturb the peace and economy of the country, were now being discussed.

The statement concluded:

"For all these reasons H.M.G. can no longer tolerate this attempt to force their hand in framing a new policy for Palestine. They have made urgent representations to the Governments of the countries from which the immigrants are dispatched in order to stop the traffic at its source. In addition, instructions have been given to the Palestine authorities that the reception into Palestine of illegal immigrants must cease.

"Accordingly, immigrants arriving illegally will henceforward be conveyed to Cyprus or elsewhere and housed in camps there until a decision can be taken as to their future. Meanwhile, it is fully understood that many of the illegal immigrants concerned have come through conditions of great hardship in circumstances not under their control, and all reasonable measures will be taken for their health and well-being.

"In announcing this decision H.M.G. wish to make it clear that,

while they cannot tolerate this attempt by a minority of Zionist extremists to exploit the sufferings of unfortunate people in order to create a situation prejudicial to a just settlement, they are deeply sensible of the sufferings undergone by the Jewish community, and are anxious to bring them to an end as soon as possible.

"It is clear that a permanent solution of this complicated question can only be brought about if Jews and Arabs are prepared to enter upon discussions in a realistic and constructive spirit in order to evolve a practical scheme for harmonizing the claims of these two historic peoples."

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Aug. 12.—The Council of U.N.R.R.A. set up a sub-committee to harmonize the various proposals for establishing future policy.

The Director General told the press, in Prague, that even though U.N.R.R.A. closed down at the end of 1946, the countries which had undertaken to relieve distress in Europe would not desist from the work of mercy till their task was finished.

Aug. 13.—In the U.N.R.R.A. Council the U.S. delegate asked for a discussion of the retention by the Russian Army in Austria of food produced there, on the ground that U.N.R.R.A.'s task was to supplement the indigenous supplies. The Yugoslav and Ukrainian delegates declared that what went on in the Russian zone was irrelevant to U.N.R.R.A.'s mandate, but the British delegate strongly supported the U.S. resolution, which was then adopted by 21 votes to 6.

Aug. 14.—The U.S. delegate to the U.N.R.R.A. conference complained that the use by the Russians in Austria of supplies needed for relief was not compatible with the U.N.R.R.A. agreement, according to which indigenous supplies should first be used in the home country where the need for them existed. Mr. La Guardia had stated that 15 million tons of Austrian oil needed for home consumption had been sold to Czechoslovakia by the Russians, and the implication was inescapable that they considered themselves free to take indigenous supplies for their own purposes whenever they wanted to.

The Soviet delegate said the question was merely a political one, and the U.N.R.R.A. agreement was not qualified to change the Potsdam agreement, which conferred certain rights on the occupying Powers. The Soviet Union would not discuss the complaint. He was supported by the Ukrainian and White Russian delegates.

The British delegate could not accept the Russian interpretation of Potsdam, and said the central committee of U.N.R.R.A. should be consulted and should take suitable action.

Aug. 20.—The conference of the International Law Association opened at Cambridge, England, and was attended by delegates from Britain, the U.S.A., Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Holland, Hungary, Poland, Sweden, and Switzerland. Lord Porter, in his inaugural address, advocated making full use of U.N.O.

and the International Court of Justice to improve obedience to international law among the nations, and so prevent war, rather than attempting at once to form an international society with power to use force and enact laws binding on all people.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE OF 21 NATIONS

Aug. 12.—The four Power commission preparing a draft statute for the Free Territory of Trieste presented its report to the conference delegations. This consisted of draft proposals presented by each of the four, those of the three western Powers being not dissimilar. They suggested that the Trieste territory needed a firm guiding hand for some years, which should be supplied by the governor, to be appointed by the Security Council. The Soviet suggested that much greater powers should be given to the universally elected Assembly, and also advocated a Customs union between the territory and Yugoslavia and a scheme for a joint Yugoslav-Trieste administration of the railways. All four Powers agreed that there should be a governor, a small executive council and an elected Assembly, composing a government structure under the supervision of the Security Council.

After much discussion the conference decided unanimously to invite Albania, Egypt, Mexico, and Cuba to present their views on the Italian treaty at convenient times during the examination.

The conference then decided without a vote, but with M. Vyshinsky disagreeing, that the Australian, Brazilian, Chinese, and Yugoslav delegations should provide the four members of the conference to sit on the secretariat with the representatives of the Big Four.

Later, M. Kardelj, replying to Sr. de Gasperi's statement, catalogued the successive acts of aggression by Italy since the beginning of the century and said she was not merely a vassal, but a partner and component part of the Axis. There was a close link between the Italy of Mussolini and the old aggressive Italy, and all the reactionary forces—Chauvinist, landowning, and monarchist—supported the régime. To make concessions at the moment would encourage Italian imperialism. Sr. de Gasperi had not denounced these forces, and his statement showed that it was too early to speak of the "new Italy"; even the composition of the Italian delegation was evidence of this. There was not a word which could be taken as a serious promise that Italy was turning over a new leaf.

It was no mere coincidence that Sr. de Gasperi was repeating the tactics pursued by the Italian leaders after the 1914-18 war and was making similar strategic claims. In his ethnic arguments he was adopting the arguments of Mussolini. The conference was exposed to the danger of making concessions not to the Italian people but to Italian imperialism. The suffering people of Yugoslavia had the right to ask their allies for protection against a new aggression. That the Italians asked for postponement of the question of the Julian March was confirmation of what he had said about the composition of the Italian

delegation, which included people who dictated an imperialistic peace in 1919 which made it possible for Italy to gain a foothold in the Balkans and created a base for Mussolini's later aggressions.

Sr. de Gasperi's speech, he maintained, was merely a plan for the defence of those imperialist positions which he hoped Italy would still be able to maintain.

Aug. 13.—M. Molotov, in the plenary session, condemned the Italian Premier's speech as the defence of an imperialist Italy, and maintained that there was a distinction between his interests and those of the Italian people. Since the fall of Fascism Italy had had an opportunity of "ceasing to be a hotbed of aggression and become an important factor for the lasting peace of Europe". The allied nations could now directly influence her development towards democracy, but this did not mean "that the Italian republic should become a weak and second rate European State" or lose her importance as an essential political factor in the Mediterranean. But "certain great Powers", he said, "are now evincing a desire to assume a monopolistic position in the Mediterranean and to push into the background not only Italy but France as well". Such a state of affairs could not serve the interests of peace, and not only France, but Italy also, should feel certain of their positions as Mediterranean States.

Italy, he went on, must carry out radical reforms, put an end to the tactics of obstruction in the economic sphere, and reorganize educational work among the masses. The task of rooting out the vestiges of Fascism was far from done. The Premier's speech was "an attempt to evade fundamental issues of Italy's resurgence as a democratic State, and by no means revealed any desire to disavow and condemn the aggression of Fascist imperialism". The claims on "Slav Istria" and Trieste had not been made in the name of a new and democratic Italy. The time was past when Slav lands were the object of partition by the European Powers. Yugoslav claims to Istria were well-founded.

The economic clauses of the treaty were not, as Sr. de Gasperi seemed to think, of secondary importance. There were 1½ million unemployed, and the occupation costs had reached enormous figures and, if prolonged, would have serious repercussions. Even a small reduction in them would be enough to cover the full amount of reparations which Italy must pay.

The Soviet Union had proposed restrictions "on excessive claims by foreign Powers" on Italy. There was a danger that strong States possessing large capital and the means to exert pressure would use their supposed rights under the "equality" of the United Nations to the detriment of Italy. The Soviet Union could not associate itself with "excessive claims which might result in the economic enslavement of Italy by foreign trusts and cartels". The oft-quoted American principle of "equality of trading opportunity" simply meant that certain strong Powers would dominate the weak. He ended by saying the conference could entertain no suggestion for a postponement of the Trieste settlement, as it would mean postponing the Treaty.

The Ethiopian delegate said that though Italy pretended to break

with the past, "the delegation seems to have no scruples in reassuming the titles which Italy has gained through three aggressions".

M. Tsaldaris asked that account be taken of the almost total destruction of the economic life of Greece, and noted with approval that Sr. de Gasperi had said that Italy would accept sacrifices.

M. Tatarescu, presenting Rumania's case, said she was not a satellite of Germany till 1941, and what happened then was the work of adventurers and traitors. In August, 1944 the country rose sword in hand to fight with the allies, losing 111,000 men killed or wounded. The draft treaty contained no provision for compensation from Germany and Hungary for the great damage and losses they caused. Rumania asked that the treaty should leave in the hands of her soldiers those weapons with which they had fought at the side of the United Nations. The economic clauses put burdens on the country it could not carry, and there was also much property which ought to be restored to it. Some 30,000 trucks had been taken out of Rumania for the benefit of the allies. The Soviet Union, despite its great claim to reparations, had been content to take no more than one-fifth of the losses it had sustained from Rumanian action. It would be strange if the other allies treated them more harshly.

Aug. 14.—The plenary session heard the Bulgarian Foreign Minister, who read a statement by the Premier. He had no wish to minimize the crimes of those who thrust the country into the war, but it was his duty to repudiate the moral responsibility of the people. The Bulgarian Army under its Fascist commanders had acted merely as forces of occupation, and had not fought on any front against the allies. The people, indeed, had been fighting on the allies' side ever since the occupation. The Army had later fought against the Germans, suffering 32,000 casualties, and Bulgaria had been recognized as a co-belligerent.

M. Kulichev then asked for access to the Aegean "by the restitution of Western Thrace", basing his claim on the statement that "the Aegean coast between the Maritza and the Mesta is an integral part of an important geographical and economic region comprising not only all south Bulgaria, but also countries much farther north". To rob Bulgaria of essential and geographical lines of communication with the outside world would be to cause poverty and economic stagnation for the population of the Rhodope Mountains and of other Bulgarian provinces. He said the old jingo spirit still reigned south of the peninsula, and not only did the Greek Government show no inclination to satisfy the legitimate and vital claim of Bulgaria to an outlet on the Aegean, but it made demands for more of her territory.

He then made claims for a share of German reparations to compensate for goods taken by Germany without payment, for the rank of co-belligerent similar to that of Italy, and for equal rights with other nations in any future body set up to control the Danube. He considered most of the economic clauses of the draft treaty were unfair, and likely to worsen the precarious state of their finances, while the military clauses were calculated to cause profound bitterness. He ended by

asking for support for Bulgaria's request for admission to U.N.O.

The Polish delegate stated that had the people themselves been free to choose, Bulgaria would never have sided with the Axis. M. Manuilsky said that now, for the first time in history, a firm foundation had been laid for mutual relations in the Balkans which would exclude national jealousies. But the Greek delegation did not understand and did not wish to understand these profound democratic changes. The old Bulgaria was gone, as had been shown by the partisan movement. He himself could not accept that Bulgaria should be cut off from the Aegean, and he considered the status of Western Thrace should return to that defined in the Treaty of Bucarest of 1913.

M. Tsaldaris said Bulgaria's claims aroused their profound indignation. She had invaded Greece 3 times in a generation. He then quoted from Gen. List's orders to the Bulgarian Army in 1941 to show that it had taken an offensive role. The claim for Western Thrace was "a recrudescence of Bulgarian expansionism".

The Hungarian Foreign Minister declared that a new and democratic Hungary was before the conference. He thought that on the basis of the terms of the draft treaty he could make certain modest claims, e.g. the return of 22,000 of the 103,000 sq. kilometres of Transylvania which were in Hungary before the 1914 war. This would mean that about the same number of Hungarians would remain in Rumania as there would be Rumanians in Hungary, and both countries would be equally interested in a satisfactory solution of the minorities problem. He then accused Czechoslovakia of expelling thousands of Hungarians at short notice, saying that 650,000 of them in Slovakia were deprived of their national status and of the most elementary human rights. No Hungarian might engage in any intellectual or manual labour, no periodicals might appear, and Hungarian might not be spoken over the telephone or used in telegrams. There was no instruction in Hungarian, and private tuition in it was punishable.

At least 500,000 Hungarians remained in Slovakia and the Government in Prague intended to put one part of them into Hungary and do away with the other by forcibly assimilating it. His Government felt, he said, that it should ask the conference to send an international commission of experts to the spot to inquire into the matter. In conclusion, he analysed the economic clauses of the treaty, and stressed the seriousness of Hungary's economic plight.

Aug. 15.—Mr. Byrnes, referring to M. Molotov's speech of Aug. 13, said America would be willing to let the reflections passed on her policies pass unnoticed if her silence helped them on the way to peace, but peace could not be furthered by ignoring the repeated abuse and misrepresentation which had been levelled against the U.S.A. Taking the Soviet charges one by one he repudiated the suggestion that America had enriched herself during the war. She sent over \$11,000 million to Russia under lend-lease, and her total war expenditure was \$400,000 million. It was also untrue that the economic clauses of the treaties were part of an effort to exploit the ex-enemy countries for the advantage of the U.S.A. The principle of equality of economic oppor-

tunity for all countries was embodied in the Atlantic Charter and in the United Nations Declaration.

Would anyone suggest, he asked, that the countries that were once under German economic domination should merely substitute for Germany some other country upon which they would be almost entirely dependent for supplies and markets? It was out of such arrangements that enslavement and exploitation arose, and not out of non-discriminatory trade, which was the best assurance against the deterioration of the world's economy into a series of economic *blocs*. He added that Greece had been criticized by some members, and this was very unfair, since at a most critical hour, "before some of us realized our peril, that small but great nation resisted with matchless valour the full might of the European Axis".

M. Vyshinsky, referring to the economic clauses of the Hungarian treaty, said the Soviet had a right to demand reparations for damage inflicted on Soviet property, and this right "we shall allow no one to deny". But they must be just. Hungary should have delivered reparations to the U.S.S.R. to a value of \$33,500,000, but had delivered only \$10 million worth. But by the trade agreement with Russia she had received goods valued at \$16 million and had herself furnished only \$6 million worth. The Hungarian delegate had spoken of two-thirds of rolling stock being removed by Szalasi's Government. Where was this? Without it, Hungary could not recover.

M. Bidault appealed for reconciliation between the members of the conference. After nearly 3 weeks of discussion they could not fail to see that "certain apprehensions have been raised", but "our will to live cannot be shaken by them". Europe could have a durable peace only if agreement between the great Powers was achieved.

Mr. Alexander agreed with what Mr. Byrnes had said, saying that he spoke now "only to make sure that silence on our part does not mean consent". It would no doubt surprise the conference to hear that Italy was not a democratic State and that the Premier spoke with the voice of Fascism. There might be some in Italy who regretted Mussolini, but "we do not believe that Sr. de Gasperi has the slightest desire to follow this evil predilection". As to allied policy in Italy an ever-increasing measure of freedom and responsibility had been given to the Government and people, and the United Nations assisted materially the material and political rebirth of the country. He did not see how in all that they could be said to be seeking to dominate Italy and keep her in a position of inferiority. As to Greece, the British people could never forget that she had fought alongside them, and it was surely wrong that Bulgaria should now be allowed to bring forward territorial claims against Greece, who suffered so much at her hands. The stand of Greece against the Axis was possibly of decisive importance in delaying the attack on Russia.

Referring to freedom of economic opportunity, he said he could see no alternative to this except closed *blocs* of States which denied the unity of the world and in which the strong must dominate the weak. If his information was correct, restrictive bilateral arrangements of a

discriminative kind had been entered into with some Balkan countries. In these they could see the direction in which the conference would turn should it reject the policy of equal opportunity.

As for the complaint of the cost of occupation of Italy, he had not observed equal tenderness regarding Hungary, Bulgaria, and Rumania, where "the costs must be stupendous", and to the charge that certain Powers wished to establish a monopolistic position in the Mediterranean to the detriment of Italy and France he replied by recalling the British fight, alone, to keep the sea lanes open. "If we had failed", he said, "I do not know what the result of the war might have been." He ended with an appeal that they should "clear the decks for peace".

M. Molotov said the Soviet delegation had been credited with statements it had not made, but it still thought its remarks about equality of economic opportunity had been correct. If the principle was acceptable, why was it to be applied to Italy for only 18 months by the draft treaty? He understood the reason for that, however—that the small countries would not accept it. He did not think Britain would be ready to apply it throughout her Empire—e.g. in India. Turning to the Finnish treaty he said the war of 1939 had broken out as a result of the failure of negotiations for the moving of the frontier a few miles further from Leningrad. Even so, the city had suffered severely. The Soviet Union had done its best to settle reparations so as to allow the rehabilitation of Finland.

The Finnish Foreign Minister called attention to the democratic character of his country's régime and social order, and said it was following a new line aiming at a lasting co-operation with Russia. The treaty frontier deprived Finland of the major part of Karelia, an area with 436,000 inhabitants, who had moved to other parts of the country during the war. She also lost Petsamo, and leased to Russia the Porkkala territory. She therefore hoped for territorial and financial alleviations in the final treaty.

Gen. Theron, for S. Africa, appealed for the setting aside of recriminations, and the adoption of a policy of the good neighbour and the good Samaritan.

Aug. 16.—The conference appointed the chairman and vice-chairmen of the commissions set up to examine the 5 draft treaties. In the commission dealing with the Rumanian treaty M. Vyshinsky said that though French representatives could take part in its work, they should not vote because France had not signed any of the Balkan armistices. (The commission had 12 members, 4 of which belonged to the Soviet group—the 3 Russian and the Czechoslovak delegations.) Mr. Jordan (N. Zealand) asked impatiently how long the work of the conference was to be held up by "long tirades" and continual "quack, quack, quack". Finally it was agreed to elect the officers and to leave the dispute to be dealt with by a higher body of the conference.

In the Finnish commission the Soviet delegate declared that France and the U.S.A., though represented, ought not to vote—that should be restricted to countries which had been at war with Finland.

Aug. 17.—The British delegate proposed that Austria should be

invited to give the conference her views on the treaty with Italy, on the ground that she should not be treated worse than the other enemy States, and she had a direct interest in the settlement of the Italian frontier. Mexico and Cuba had been asked to give their views, and as to Austria not being a member of U.N.O. Albania was also not a member.

M. Vyshinsky disagreed, saying that Austria's motive was to make a territorial claim on Italy. She had been a faithful ally of Germany up to the last, and the great battle fought by the Red Army for Vienna was only 3 weeks prior to the battle for Berlin. Why, he asked, should Austria be given a piece of territory? Unlike Mexico and Cuba she had not been at war with Italy, and unlike Albania she had no vital interests involved in the treaty.

The U.S. delegate suggested that it would take less time to hear Austria than to debate her right to be heard, and he supported the proposal. M. de Murville said France did not consider it possible to refuse Austria a hearing, and the Canadian delegate agreed. The Yugoslav delegate argued that the Austrian problem could not be separated from that of Germany, and there was no present case for hearing Austria's views.

A vote was taken, and the proposal to invite Austria to give her views, in the same manner as Albania, Egypt, Mexico, and Cuba but on all 5 treaties was adopted by 15 votes to 6. M. Vyshinsky proposed that Persia be heard, and was seconded by the Chinese delegation. This was then adopted unanimously.

The Chairman for the last 2 commissions (the Bulgarian and the Hungarian Political Commissions) were elected.

Aug. 19.—Six commissions met. The Finnish political and territorial commission voted by 6 to 4 (France and the U.S.A. abstaining) not to start examining the treaty till all the amendments had been received, defeating a Russian proposal that the examination should begin at once. The military commission (to examine the military clauses of all 5 treaties) decided to begin with Italy, and then go on to Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Finland in turn.

Aug. 20.—The Italian political commission dealt with a memorandum from the Italian Government which complained that the preamble to the draft treaty was "summary and, at certain points, imprecise". (The preamble began: "Whereas Italy under the Fascist régime became a party to the Tripartite Pact with Germany and Japan, declared a war of aggression and entered into war with all the allied and associated Powers and with other United Nations and bears her share of responsibility for the war . . .") It pointed out that Italy had not declared war on Belgium, Holland, Poland, or Czechoslovakia, and they had not declared war on her. It suggested changes in the wording accordingly.

The Polish delegate said all Poles were treated in Italy as enemies and fighting men of the two countries were in combat. The Dutch delegate recalled that when Holland declared war on Italy the Italian Minister in Sweden replied that he could not accept that declaration "because the Netherlands no longer exist". The Yugoslav delegate said "the

war was one and indivisible—a war between democracy and Fascism”, and asked whether Italy would claim credit because she had invaded Yugoslavia and Albania without declaring war.

Other delegates also criticized the Italian memo adversely, and M. Vyshinsky pressed strongly that the commission should reject it by vote there and then. Others argued that it was put forward only for consideration, not decision, and also said they had amendments of their own to propose which might modify the preamble to bring it a little nearer to the Italian wording. After discussion it was agreed unanimously that the chairman should declare the discussion closed and take note that “none of the suggestions presented in the memorandum were taken up in the form in which they were presented, as amendments, by any delegation; and that they were, therefore, not endorsed”.

The four-Power special commission on Trieste agreed on the adoption of several clauses of the proposed statute for a free port, but disagreed as to its administration. The British and Americans proposed that the director should be neither Italian nor Yugoslav and should be responsible to the governor of the territory, who would have wide powers. The Russians wished the director to be a native of the territory and be responsible to its elected Government. They also wished Poland, Rumania, Albania, and the Ukraine to be represented on the administrative council for the port.

Aug. 21.—The plenary session was resumed and the Albanian delegate outlined his case against Italy, saying that Albania asked that the treaty should put an end to Italian aggression in its pre-Fascist as well as its later form, and should lay down the amount and method of payment of reparations by Italy. The treaty should recognize Albania as an associated Power with the right of signature.

The Egyptian delegate said Egypt was concerned with reparations, which should be paid out of Italian property in Egypt, and territorial claims, i.e. the return of Jerabub (ceded to Italy in 1925) and Sollum, which should be made an integral part of Egyptian territory. As to Libya, the Allies would no doubt recognize it as an independent sovereign State, and, meanwhile, the administration could be entrusted to the Arab League, holding a mandate from the Conference.

The Austrian Foreign Minister pointed out that Austria was the first country to be the target of Hitler's attack, and also the first to resolve to defend itself. She wanted nothing more than to safeguard her democracy and her peaceful life. He claimed that the South Tyrolese had preserved their Austrian hearts, and said his Government asked the Conference that a solution might be found to which the S. Tyrolese people might give their free and whole-hearted approval.

Aug. 22.—In the plenary session the Brazilian delegate appealed for equitable treatment for the Italian people, saying he spoke for Latin-America as well as Brazil. Italy—“this noble nation”—must be given the chance to revive and to live in dignity and brotherhood. The Indian delegate paid a tribute to the Persians, and said Egypt had also played her part in the defence of a vital area. He hoped Libya would be independent at the earliest moment possible.

M. Tsaldaris described as monstrous distortions of events the claims Bulgaria and Albania had made against Greece. Albania was a satellite from the first hour, and was still in a state of war with Greece. When an allied ship was fired on in May by Albanian coastal batteries the authorities, when questioned about it, said they had mistaken it for a Greek vessel. Northern Epirus had hitherto been an insurmountable obstacle to good relations between the two countries. It was an area of capital importance to Greece. He asked that the conference should amend articles 21 to 26 of the draft treaty which granted Albania rights and advantages which Greece could not recognize.

M. Manuilsky said M. Tsaldaris' speech contained more hate against Albania than against Italy. When Italy attacked Albania the League of Nations did nothing. In Athens Metaxas greeted the opening of an era of cordial co-operation between Greece and Italy. Since M. Tsaldaris made his first speech on Aug. 3, frontier incidents had multiplied, showing how Greek declarations made at the conference could endanger peace. Conditions prevailing in Greece were likely to lead to trouble in the Balkans, he declared.

Mr. Bevin, who presided, then stated that he hoped other speakers would confine themselves to discussion of the Italian treaty. He considered it unwise to "continue debating in this scattered fashion".

Aug. 23.—The Italian political and territorial commission discussed the preamble to the treaty, and the Dutch delegate proposed an alteration in the wording to say that Italy undertook (instead of declared) a war of aggression. Others also pointed out that she did not declare war on Australia and New Zealand, but vice versa, but M. Vyshinsky said the original wording must stand. After a long discussion a vote was taken, and the change was adopted by 11 to 9, the minority including Britain, the U.S.A., Russia, and France. Unanimous support was given to an addition giving recognition to the fighting contribution of Italian patriots to the allied cause.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1946

- Sept. 1 Referendum on the monarchy in Greece.
- „ 2 F.A.O.: Plenary Session, Copenhagen.
- „ 8 Referendum on question of a Republic, Bulgaria.
- „ 17 I.L.O.: Governing Body, Montreal.
- „ 19 I.L.O.: 29th Session, International Labour Conference, Montreal.
- „ 23 General Assembly of U.N.O., New York.
- „ 28 The General Election, Australia.
- „ ? Elections for district Councils in British and Soviet zones of Germany.
- „ ? U.N. Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Geneva?
- Oct. 20 City and District Council Elections, Berlin.
- „ 27 Elections to National Assembly, Bulgaria.
- Nov. 1 U.N.E.S.C.O.: Preparatory Commission, Paris.
- „ 5-23 U.N.E.S.C.O.: General Conference, Paris.
- „ 12 Meeting of the National Assembly, China.
- Autumn I.L.O.: Industrial Committees, Textiles Committee. and Building, Civil Engineering and Public Works Committee, Brussels.